

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Klaus-Dieter NITTEL, et al.

THIS IS A CONTINUATION APPLICATION OF: Group Art Unit: 1742

Application No.: 10/088,840

Filed: July 2, 2002

Examiner: A. L. Oltmans

For: **METHOD FOR APPLYING MANGANESE
PHOSPHATE LAYERS**

This correspondence is being sent by Express Mail No: EV 331559570 US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450 on April 22, 2004.


Eileen Sheffield

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to prosecution on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: